

BEN MARK HOLZBERG/still photography
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Toronto photographer Ben Mark Holzberg has spent more than three decades actively creating an impressive body of work in the various spheres of publicity/advertising, editorial and film still photography, as well as gallery & art-in-public showings. Always incisive, often intriguingly paradoxical, his strong graphic sense prevails in distinctive black-and-white and dazzling colour imagery.

An innovator in public art, Ben Mark has exhibited internationally, including well-received one-man and group shows in Toronto, New York, across Canada and abroad: Canvas Gallery Toronto Distillery Art Toronto, Zucca Toronto, Gallery 533--Contact Toronto, Galleria Foto/Video Krakow Poland, Mackenzie Gallery Trent University Peterborough, ON, Gallery Idee--photos/NOW Toronto, CEPA Gallery--MetroBus Show Buffalo NY, The Museum of Holgraphy NYC, Hallwalls Buffalo NY, The Art Gallery of Hamilton ON, Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography Cibachrome Show Ottawa, Thames Art Centre Chatham ON, Owen's Art Gallery at Mount Allison University Sackville NB, Gallery Lumiere Toronto, Galerie Vehicule Montreal and A Space Toronto.

His work is represented in The Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, The Canada Council Art Bank, The National Photography Collection & The Portrait Gallery of Library and Archives Canada, Media Commons University of Toronto, The Archives of the City of Toronto, The Ontario Educational Communications Authority, The Order Of The Broom Slide Archive and in many private collections in Canada and the United States. He received early-career grants from both the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council for assistance in fine art photography and his celebrity stock photography has been represented by Shooting Star International Photo Agency Los Angeles since 1990,

Holzberg is perhaps best known for initiating three photography exhibitions with the Toronto Transit Commission in conjunction with A Space Gallery. He organized *Rolling Landscape* (1978). This unprecedented show in Toronto Subway Car #5780, featured 52 colour transparencies in the overhead advertising space, taking commuters delightfully by surprise. So positive was the public response that Holzberg arranged a sequel, *Station-to-Station* (1979), a show of platform posters in 31 underground stations. The third transit exhibit went above ground on Queen Street West, in 1983 as *Street Photography*, featuring ten Canadian photo artists in bus-shelter ad spaces.

During 1978 and 1979, Ben Mark Holzberg was Associate Editor of Image Nation and Only Paper Today, and made a multi media lecture tour of Western Canada with Impressions Magazine describing the state of small press publishing in Canada. He also taught courses on colour photograph enlarging (analogue) tin conjunction with George Brown College and Employment Canada. Through his own company Silver Developments, Ben Mark worked closely with many artists to create custom Cibachrome prints and transparencies and provided technical assistance for the CMCP Cibachrome Show

As former contributing editor of Toronto's popular news and entertainment weekly *NOW* magazine, Ben Mark is well known for his popular masthead photos. His editorial photography has been described by art critic John Bentley Mays as "particularly inventive." Always on the cutting edge, his pictures have provided illustration for many features, including covers and stories on film directors Francis Ford Coppola, David Cronenberg and John Dahl, Bob and Doug MacKenzie, and the Wintergarden Theatre renovation. Said Holzberg of this work: "I find it especially satisfying to reach a wide audience while exercising complete artistic freedom." As freelance, he has published in *Reader's Digest*, *Women's World*, *Lifestyle Ontario*, *Men's Fitness*, *LA Weekly*, *Seattle's Coffee Journal*, *W Magazine*, *Canadian Business*, *Canadian Art*, *People Weekly*, *Canadian Forum*, *Quill & Quire*. Clients include Cognac Otard, motum btb, Simon & Schuster Canada, WZMH Partnership, Philip Watch, CAPAC, The Directors' Guild of Canada, ACTRA, Canadian Auto Workers, Ontario Cancer Research Network, OPSEU, Young People's Theatre, and the Ontario Ministry of Tourism. Ben Mark has served on the Board of Directors of A Space Gallery and Fringe Research Holographics and was President of NABET Freelance Local 700.

Holzberg's still photography has been much in demand by the film and television industries. Some of his many credits include, *Defiance*, *Nikita*, *Fringe*, *Flashpoint*, *State Within*, Ken Finkelman's *At The Hotel*, *Slings and Arrows*, *Anne of Green Gables Prequel*, Michael Ignatieff's *Scar Tissue*, Maya Angelous's, *Down In The Delta*, *Harlan County*, *Nero Wolfe Mysteries*, *Northern Exposure*, *Beautiful Dreamers*, Margaret Atwood's *Heaven On Earth*, and *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, for CBS, BBC, CBC, ABC/Disney, NBC, NFB, Showtime, A&E Television, USA and SyFy Networks, Lifetime Television etc. He has photographed such luminaries as Alan Alda, Anne Bancroft, Kathy Bates, Jacqueline Bissett, James Caan, Maury Chaykin Judy Davis, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Bruce Dern, Taye Diggs, Holly Hunter, Dennis Hopper, Diane Keaton, Rachel McAdams, William H. Macy, Shirley MacLaine, Andie McDowall, Rosie O'Donnell, Sean Penn, Jason Priestly, River Phoenix, Susan Sarandon, Cybill Shepherd, Wesley Snipes, Mira Sorvino, Donald Sutherland, Sir Peter Ustinov, Sigourney Weaver, and Alfre Woodard.

In the late 1970's Holzberg was Associate Editor of *Image Nation* and *Only Paper Today*, and toured Western Canada for *Impressions* magazine with a multi-media lecture on the state of small-press publishing in Canada. He has taught courses on colour photograph enlarging (analogue) in conjunction with George Brown College and Employment Canada. Through his own company, Silver Developments, Ben Mark worked closely with many artists to create custom Cibachrome prints and transparencies, and provided technical assistance for the CMCP Cibachrome Show.

Educated in the United States and Canada, Ben Mark Holzberg studied with Jerry Uelsmann and Douglas Prince at the University of Florida, and with Coach House Press publisher Stan Bevington at the Three Schools of Art in Toronto. He is a graduate of the Photography Program of Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario. Born and raised in Toronto where he currently resides, he is the enthusiastic father of four.